

Addictive & Mental Disorders Division (AMDD)
Montana's Action Plan for Co-Occurring Disorders
Status Report for June - July 2007

Co-Occurring Policy Team

- The Policy Team meeting was held with Ken Minkoff & Chris Cline on July 12th in Helena. Members discussed the implementation of Co-Occurring Capable Endorsement Guidelines for state funded Mental Health & Chemical Dependency Programs. Ken and Chris will provide recommendations to AMDD to incorporate into the guidelines. The final draft will be submitted to the Policy Team for review and comments.
- The team members held a discussion on the development of a common vision and understanding of their role on the Policy Team. New members recommended an orientation session be presented to all new members as they join the team.
- Bonnie Adee, Bureau Chief of Children's Mental Health Services, was welcomed as a new member. Deb offered to provide a half or full day orientation to the Children's Mental Health Bureau staff.
- The next Policy Team meeting will be held on Thursday, October 4th.

Training/Presentations

- "Integrated Treatment Planning utilizing Longitudinal Strength Based Assessment" was presented on July 11th in Helena with Ken Minkoff and Chris Cline. The training for 110 participants was sponsored by the Addictive & Mental Disorders Division.

COST (Co-Occurring Strategic Team)

- Final coordination of the July 10th- 11th & 12th Change Agent, Policy Team and technical assistance visit with Ken Minkoff and Chris Cline.
- Reviewed and developed strategies to incorporate recommendations discussed at the technical assistance meetings with Ken & Chris.
- An invitation was extended to Eric Higginbotham and state members on the Data Work Group to discuss how the State can better identify data improvement opportunities and communication with Mental Health & Chemical Dependency Directors regarding the need for screening data.

Change Agent/Active Work Group Reports:

- The Change Agents held a meeting on July 10th in Helena. Approximately 50 Change Leaders were in attendance. Key discussion items included:
 - The members reviewed CODECAT results and discussed how the results of the information need to include coordination with the Training work group.
 - The Data work group discussed the initial results of the data collected from Mental Health Centers regarding screening.
- Other Work Group activities and objectives included:
 - Media & Communications will be surveying Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Programs on how effective the Co-Occurring initiative is to their program.
 - Training has developed a toolkit and training for each agency to train new employees as part of an employee orientation.
 - Scope of Practice and Core Competencies has been reviewing licensing requirements. Also, recommendations for core minimum competencies have been developed and will be distributed to constituents.
 - Program Licensing will present to the Policy Team the draft Endorsement Guidelines for review. The next step will be to meet with Quality Assurance Division to develop Administrative Rules.
 - Cultural Competency unveiled the Art contest scheduled in conjunction with the Lincoln Art Show at the 2007 Mental Illness Conference in October 2007. Deb Sanchez at 444-2706 is the contact person.
 - Cultural Competency members continue to work on methods for providing training to various programs and communities throughout the state.
 - State Facilities is working to enhance the relationship and better utilize the resources between Montana Chemical Dependency Center and Montana State Hospital.

The next Change Agent meeting is scheduled for October 3rd.